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TURNER, H. W. *A Post-Tertiary Elevation of the Sierra Nevada*. Abstract, Science, N. S. Vol. XV, pp. 414, 415, 1902.

A comparison is made of the grades of the Tuolumne river in Neocene times and the present, showing a grade of 142 feet to the mile for the Neocene, in the 33 miles above the mouth of Piute creek and 92 feet to the mile for the present channel. The Neocene stream flowed in a broad channel making deposits, which indicate comparatively gentle grades, though they are scarcely so marked on this river as on streams farther north. It is thought that the grade was at least as low as that of the modern stream, so that the present grade of the Neocene channel is much greater than the grade at the time it was occupied by the stream, and this must have been brought about by a differential uplift on the east.

Princeton Patagonian Reports. Vol. I. Narrative and Geography.

By J. B. HATCHER. Published by the University, 1903; pp. 314; pls. L.

NO BETTER augury could be desired for the success of the Princeton Patagonian Reports, the publication of which has been eagerly awaited, than is furnished by this, the initial volume of the series. Although entitled "Narrative and Geography," this handsome volume contains much more than the mere record or field-notes of an explorer's itinerary, being as a matter of fact replete with all manner of observations on the natural history, geology and physiography of the region visited. A Nansen, a Stanley, in fact no one short of a trained naturalist could have produced such a work, which is of the order one might expect from a Humboldt or Darwin. Without doubt the present contribution ranks as one of the most noteworthy that has yet appeared concerning the physical and biological features of the lower extremity of the South American continent.

One cannot review this work of Mr. Hatcher without appreciating the justice of Professor Scott's tribute, who remarks in the editorial preface that, "the whole forms a monument of energy and skill which it is difficult to characterize without using terms which savor of exaggeration." Three large monographs dealing with the rich palæontological material brought back from South America are promised by Professor Scott, and he further states in regard to Mr. Hatcher's stratigraphic determinations, that they were "most useful, making possible for the first time a rational account of the geology of large areas in southern Patagonia." It deserves also to be remembered, in judging of the extent of these achievements, that an elaborate volume by Drs. A. Ortmann and T. W. Stanton on the invertebrate material has already made its appearance.

Besides having had the good fortune to secure tons of highly interesting palæontological material, Mr. Hatcher has placed geologists the world over in his debt by having definitely settled the problem as to the age of the Santa Cruz beds, which has long been a serious stumbling-block. Not only this, but he was able to trace the entire stratigraphic succession from the Cretaceous upward, thus furnishing us with a complete section of Patagonian formations. Doubts as to the occurrence of certain strata in particular areas have been satisfactorily cleared, and in a word, light has been shed upon a number of burning issues in geology and palæontology. The author also has much to say in his narrative of interest to the meteorologist and anthropologist. Climatal conditions, the character of the soil and its vegetation, very full accounts of the native Indians, their customs and peculiarities, and a great deal regarding the habits of wild animals, even the psychological experiences of himself and companions whilst buried in the wilderness—all these and many other topics are presented in a simple and pleasing style; and what with the narrative and camera illustrations, the reader has a sense of being fairly transported into the heart of Patagonia.

With characteristic modesty, the author touches but lightly upon the hardships and privations endured by himself and faithful companions; yet we know that the party had only the most meager facilities and very limited means at its command, and we can only picture to ourselves in imagination how extremely serious the situation was at times, how apparently insurmountable the difficulties. No one can fail to admire the quiet courage, patience and energy of the man who planned and successfully carried out, almost single-handed, an expedition of such magnitude and so rich in scientific results, and at the same time in the face of such discouraging obstacles.

C. R. E.